

HEALTH SERVICES
PUBLIC HEALTH AND OTHER PROGRAMS

Transfer of Food, Lodging and Recreational Establishments to DATCP
[LFB Paper #381]

Motion:

Adopt the modification.

Move to prohibit the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), or local health departments granted agent status, from modifying the fees that apply to all entities regulated under Subchapter II of Chapter 97 of the statutes related to the food safety (which would be created by the bill) from the levels that are in effect on the general effective date of the bill. Repeal this provision effective July 1, 2017.

Create the Food Safety Advisory Council in DATCP. Require that the DATCP Secretary appoint council members to reflect a broad representation of entities regulated under Subchapter II of Chapter 97 of the statutes. Require that the Council meet at least quarterly. Require the council to address all aspects of food safety, including the fees charged to regulated entities.

Note:

The bill would transfer regulatory authority for restaurants, lodging establishments, and certain recreational establishments from the Department of Health Services (DHS) to DATCP. DATCP currently regulates retail food establishments, such as grocery stores, and other food-related entities, such as dairy farms. Inspection fees for these establishments are set in administrative rule, or by local health departments that have been granted "agent" status by DHS or DATCP. Currently, DHS convenes a food safety advisory committee, though statutes do not require that it do so.

This motion would freeze the inspection and other fees charged to these entities at their current levels until the end of the 2015-17 biennium. It would also create a Food Safety Advisory Council in state statute, with membership appointed by DATCP.

Posted By:
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